

Year 5

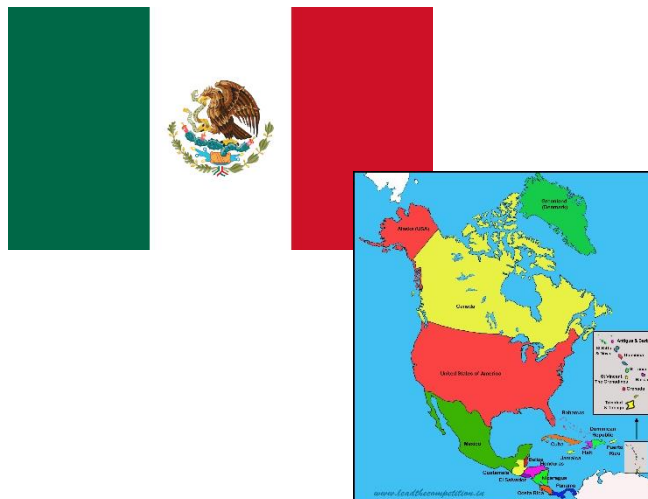
Key Facts:

- North America is the third largest continent.
- North America is made up of 23 countries, including the USA, Canada and Mexico.
- The largest country in North America is Canada, but the United States of America has the largest population.
- The most commonly spoken languages are English, French and Spanish.
- The equator splits the Earth in two halves or hemispheres. North America is above the equator, so it's in the northern hemisphere.
- North America has many amazing physical features, including Niagara Falls on the border of Canada and the USA.
- The USA is divided into 50 states.
- The largest city in North America is Mexico City, the capital of Mexico.
- Mexico has mountains, rainforests and deserts.
- Mexico's climate varies from tropical to desert.
- Mexico is one of the most bio-diverse countries on earth and has the most reptile species in the world.



North America - Mexico

Enquiry Question: What is life like in a North American megacity?



Term: Spring 2

Glossary:

Megacity	A megacity is a very large city with a population of more than 10 million people.
Tourism	When people travel from where they live to another place for pleasure or relaxation
Latitude	Geographical coordinates that run horizontally around the Earth (east to west). They are parallel to the equator.
Longitude	Geographical coordinates that run vertically around the Earth (north to south).
Northern Hemisphere	The part of the planet that is north of the equator.
Popocatepetl	One of the most active volcanoes in Mexico.
Chichen Itza	An archaeological site that is a complex of Mayan ruins.
Climate Zone	A climate zone is an area with its own distinct climate. Each zone relates to a different biome.
State	A geographical area. There are 50 states in the USA.
Maya	The Maya civilisation began in around 2000BC in a place called Mesoamerica , which is now part of Mexico and central America.

Key Questions:

- What are the countries of North America?
- Where is North America on a map?
- What is a megacity?
- How is Mexico City different to London?
- What are the physical features in North America and how do they differ from other places?
- What is a state and how many states are there in the USA?

CLASSES 5RS, 5OF and 5FM

Homework to be completed and returned by

Wednesday 2nd April

Dear Pupils, Parents and Carers,

Our topic this half term is North America, with a focus on Mexico. We will be looking at the physical and human geography of the continent as well as looking in detail at Mexico City and comparing this with another megacity. Homework can be completed with an adult or independently.

Spelling

Don't forget spelling rules for your spelling words will go home with you Friday for your collaborative test the following week!



Maths

Remember to revise your **time tables**.

Practice the **number facts** you are working on each week.

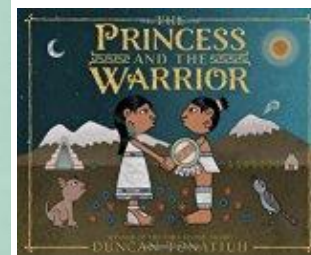
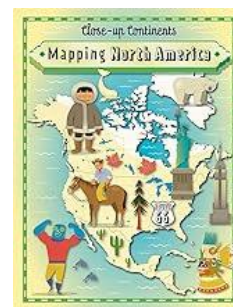
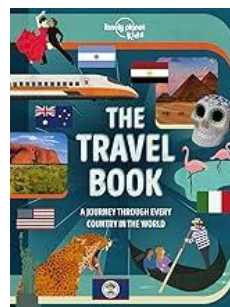
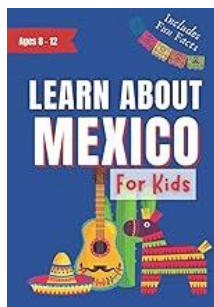
And please don't forget to log onto **Times Table Rock Stars!**



Places to Visit:

- Horniman Museum
<https://www.horniman.ac.uk/place/place-245/>
- British Museum
<https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/galleries/mexico>
- Visit a Mexican restaurant in London
<https://www.wahaca.co.uk/>
<https://www.tacoselpastor.co.uk/>

Recommended Reads:



Home Learning Links:

BBC Bitesize – The Geography of North America - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zsw4kty/articles/z72f3j6#z2mybqt>

BBC Bitesize – Latitude and Longitude - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvsfr82/articles/zd4rmfr>

National Geographic – Mexico <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/geography/countries/article/mexico>

Fun Kids - <https://www.funkidslive.com/learn/top-10-facts/top-10-facts-about-mexico/>

Ducksters - <https://www.ducksters.com/geography/northamerica.php>

Homework:

TRY TO COMPLETE AT LEAST ONE OF THE WRITING TASKS

- 1) Write a travel blog introducing the key geographical and human features of this fascinating and diverse country.
- 2) Find out about some of Mexico's main cultural events- for Example Mardi Gras and the Day of The Dead Celebrations in October.
- 3) Find out and write about the work of the Mexican Artists - Frieda Kahlo and Diego Rivera.
- 4) Write a tourist information guide to one of Mexico's famous Mayan or Aztec sites such as Chichen Itza, Tulum or Palenque.
- 5) Find out about some of Mexico's amazing plant and animal life- it is perhaps the most diverse country on the planet in terms of its 'flora and fauna'.

NOW YOU COULD CHOOSE SOME OR ALL OF THESE

- 1) Make a model of a Mayan or Aztec Temple.
- 2) Make a sugar skull using icing sugar paste.
- 3) Draw yourself in the style of a Frieda Kahlo self-portrait.
- 4) Make a Mexican dish – tacos, huevos rancheros, enchiladas, quesadillas or a tres leches cake.